

History and Progress of the four Indian Kings,



To the Kingdom of
England: Giving
a particular De-
scription of the
Country they
came from Their
Government, Cu-
stoms, Religion,
and manners.

With their Habits,
Feasts, Marriages
and Burials, and
what else is re-
markable in this of
strange People.



Together with their
Effigies at large in
the Habits they
now wear.

Their Business to
to Her most Sa-
cred Majesty
Queen Anne.

Also the four Indi-
an Kings Speech
to her Majesty.
With the Epilogue
spoken to them at
the Play-house.



THE HISTORY OF The Four KINGS.

IT will first be enquir'd into the Reason, or Cause, that has brought these strange Persons into this Kingdom; especially, it seems to require some Reason to unfold, why Four Kings should come themselves in Person on any Embassy. To this I answer, that as their Territories are very small, having perhaps a King in every Ten or Twelve Miles compass; they do not use such State as other Foreign Potentates do; neither do they pursue the same Methods of Government, to send Ambassadors, but hearing of the Fame of Her Majesty Queen Anne, are come to see, and adore that Princess, they are in their Country heard such Wonders of; and likewise to desire to be instructed in the Christian Religion: besides inhabiting between *New England* and *Canada*, the first under Her Majesty's Auspicious Government, and the latter under the *French*, whom for their Cruelties, and other Reasons they naturally hate; their Business is likewise to crave Aid of Her Majesty to help Her to Conquer that Country, so belonging to the *French*; and we hear that there is already some Officers Nam'd to go thither, who are to raise some Men, and to be supply'd with some Warlike Stores, and other Necessaries: and when these four famous Kings will return and assist the

English

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English with what Force they are masters of, to reduce the *French* in *Canada*.

These *Indians* are very kind and affable to the *English*, and love mightily to Trade with them; having a particular Respect for the Traffick of this Kingdom, especially our Trinkets, as Beads, Toys, red Inkle, and such like Commodities, which they use to make themselves fine.

They are the most comely sort of *Indians* of any whatever, there being a strange difference in the Proportion and Features of these People, altho' their Tribes and Nations border upon one another, and are not above Ten or Twenty miles asunder; yet you may discern a visible Alteration in their Shape and Features, as also in their Speech, which generally proves quite different from each other. The Women here are tolerably Handsome, at least our *English* Traders don't like to think 'em so, for they are seldom without an *Indian* Female for a Bed-fellow, alledging these Reasons, is sufficient to allow of this Familiarity. First, That these *Indians* being remote from white People, it helps to preserve their Friendship with 'em, they esteeming White Man's Child, much above one of their own kind; the *Indian* Mistress ever securing her White friend whilst he stays amongst them; and also, that his Correspondence makes 'em learn the *Indian* Tongue with more facility, they being of the *French* Man's opinion, that an *English* Wife teaches her Husband to be *English* in one Night, than a School-master can do in a Week.

When Women here, as in some Parts of *England*, as well as *Wales*, smoke much Tobacco, They have pipes, whose Heads are cut out of Stone, and will hold an Ounce of Tobacco, some much less, with which they smoke in great State. The

The Girls at 12 or 13 Years of Age, as soon as Nature prompts them, freely bestow their Maiden-heads on some Youth about the same Age, continuing her Favours on whom she most Affects, changing her Mate very often, few or none of them being constant to one, till a greater Number of Years, has made them capable of managing Domestick Affairs, and hath had several Gallants, which is never look'd on as any Stain to her Reputation, or the least hindrance to her Advancement, but rather the more Honourable; and make 'em most coveted by those of the First Rank, to make a Wife of.

When they have gone through their Degrees, there being a certain Graduation amongst them, and are allow'd to be House-Keepers, which is not till they arrive at such an Age, and have pass'd the Ceremonies practic'd in their Nation; almost all Nations differing in the Progress thereof; then it is, that the Man makes his Addresses to Woman, who has thus acquir'd Experience, which of 'em he likes best: When she is won, the Parents of both Parties, with the Consent of the King, agree about the Matter, making a Promise of their Daughter to the Man that requires her, it often happening that they converse, and Travel together for several Moons before the Marriage is Publish'd openly. After this, at the least dislike, the Man may turn her away, and take another; or if she disapproves of his Company, a price is set upon her, and if any other that seeks to get her, will pay the Fine to her Husband, she becomes free to him. Likewise some of their War Captains, and great Men very often will retain 3 or 4 pretty Women at a Time, tho' he is so impotent or old, as to be incapable of making use of them, otherwise than to keep him warm.

The Husband is never so engag'd, as to put his Adulterous Wife to Death, for if she is caught in the Fact, the Rival becomes Debtor to the corrupted Husband, in a certain quantity of Trifles valuable amongst them, which he pays as soon as discharg'd, and then all Animosities cease between them. The Man proves often so good humour'd to please his Neighbour, and gratifies his Wifes Inclination,

by letting her out for a Night or two to some other she has a greater liking to: but this is not often practis'd.

They set apart the youngest and prettiest Faces for Trading Girls, these are remarkable by their Hair, and a particular Tonsure by which they are known and distinguish'd from those engag'd to Husbands; and yet full short of the Impudence of our own *English* Whores in many Respects. As they grow in Years, the Vehemence of their Love grows cooler, and then they commonly are so staid, as to engage themselves to each other, for it is the same in Men or Women.

Their Feasts, or Revels, are carried on in a House made for that purpose, it being done round with White Benches of fine Canes, joining along the Wall; a Place for the Door being left, which is so low, that a Man must stoop to enter therein. This Edifice resembles very much a large Hay-Stack, its Top being Pyramidal, and much bigger than their other Dwellings; and at the building whereof, every one assists till it is finish'd. All their Houses are cover'd with Bark, but this differs very much, for it is artificially Thatch'd with Sed-e and Rushes, which as soon as finish'd, they put some of their chiefest Men to dwell therein, who are charg'd with the Preservation thereof. In this kind of State House is transacted all publick and private Business relating to the Affairs of the Government. Here the most Aged and Wisest meet to determine what to Act, either in War or Peace. Old Age being held in the greatest Veneration amongst them. Whenever an aged Man is speaking, none ever interrupt him, contrary to the Practice of the *English*, and other *European* Nations: And generally speaking, the *Indians* are a People that seldom interrupt one another in their Discourse.

When an *English* Man comes amongst them, perhaps every one is acquainted with him, yet first the King bids him Welcome, next the War Captain, and so gradually from high to low in their Turns, not one of 'em offering to salute his white Guest, till his Superiour has ended his Salutation. Amongst Women, it seems, impossible to find a Scold; if they are provok'd or affronted by their Husbands,

or any other, they resent the Indignity offer'd them in silent Tears, or by refusing their Meat; I'm afraid we shall hardly follow this Example in *England*, for our Wives, in spite of the Devil, will have recourse to that unruly member the Tongue.

As soon as the Viands are serv'd up, the Company is summon'd by beat of Drum; it being made of a dress'd Deer's Skin, tied hard upon an Earthen Potridge-poi: Then they fall to Dancing, which is nothing but a sort of stamping Motion, much like the treading upon a Founder's Bellows; but they will hold it for six Hours together, as soon as the Dancing is over, each lays hold of his Girl, with whom he takes up his Lodging for that Night.

Their chief Delight and Employment is Hunting, and he that excels most in that Quality, is accounted the greatest Person, and has the highest Reputation amongst the women, the chieft and beautifult Girls being always bestow'd on him.

The manner of their Funeral is thus---After the Corps has lain in the Sun for a Day or two, they remove it upon a kind of Bier, and then anoint it with Bear's Oil and other Ingredients; then cover it over with the Bark of *Pine* or *Cypres* Trees, so that no Rain may fall upon it, sweeping the Ground very clean about it. The chief Relation or Mourner, then brings all the Temporal Goods of the Deceas'd, as his Guns, Arrows, Bows, Beads, &c. and being clad in Moss, keeping a mournful Drey for Three or Four Days. As soon as the Flesh grows Mellow, and that it will cleave from the Bones, they gill it off, and burn it, preserving the Bones very clean; and with the Skull carefully wrap it up, which they choicely store in a wooden Box, and will keep them for many Ages; so that it is ordinary to see an *Indian* in Possession of his Great Grand Father's Grand Father. They

They have other sort of Tombs, as where any Indian of Note is Slain, they make a heap of Stones, every one that passes by adding a Stone to augment the Heap, by which the Memory of them is preserv'd for many Ages.

As to their Habit, it may be seen in the Picture before the Book: That of the Women differing very little therefrom.

The Four Indian King's Speech to Her Majesty.

Great Queen,

WE have undertaken a long and tedious Voyage, which none of our Predecessors could ever be prevailed upon to undertake. The Motive that induc'd us, was, That we might see our Great Queen, and relate to her those things we thought absolutely necessary for the Good of Her and Of her Allies, on the other side of the Great Waters.

We doubt not but our Great Queen has been acquainted with our long and tedious War, in conjunction with her Children, meaning Subjects, against her Enemies the French: And that we have been as strong a Wall for their Security, even to the Loss of our Best Men. The Truth of which our Brother Queder, Colonel Schuyler, and Anadagajaux, Cold el Nicholson can testify; they having all our Proposals in Writing.

We were mightily rejoiced, when we heard by Anadagajaux, that our Great Queen had resolv'd to send an Army to reduce Canada; from whose Mouth we readily embrac'd our Great Queen's Instructions: And in token of our Friendship we hung up the Kettle, and took up the Hatchet; and with one Consent joined our Brother Queder, Colonel Schuyler, and Anadagajaux, Colonel Nicholson, in making Preparations on this side the Lake, by building Forts, Store-houses, Canoes and Battering; whilst Anadagajaux, Colonel Verch, at the same time, rais'd an Army at Boston, of which we were inform'd by our Embassadors, whom we sent thither for that purpose. We waited long in expectation of the Fleet from England, to join Anadagajaux, Colonel Verch, to go against Quebec by Sea, whilst Anadagajaux, Queder, and we went to Mont Royal by Land: But at last we were inform'd

that our Great Queen, by some important Affair, was prevented in her Design for that Season. This made us extremely joyful, lest the French, who hitherto had dreaded us, should now think us unable to make War against them. The Reduction of Canada is of such Weight, that after the settling thereof, we should have Free Hunting, and a great Trade with our Great Queen's Children. And as a Token of the Sincerity of the Six Nations, we do here in the Names of All, present our Great Queen these Belts of Wampum.

We need not urge to our Great Queen more than the Necessity we really labour under obliges us, that in case our Great Queen should not be mindful of us, we must with our Families forsake our Country, and seek other Habitation, or stand Neuter; either of which will be much against our Inclinations.

Since we have been in Alliance with our Great Queen's Children, we have had some Knowledge of the Savages of the World, and have often been importuned by the French, both by the Insinuations of their Priests, and by Presents, to come over to their Interest, but have always esteem'd them Men of Falshood: But if our Great Queen will be pleas'd to send over some Persons so skill'd in, they shall find us still ready to receive them.

We now close all, with hopes of our Great Queen's Favour, and leave it to her most Gracious Consideration.

The Epilogue that was spoken before the four Indian Kings, at the Play-house.

AS Sheba's Queen with Adoration came,
To pay her Homage to a greater Name,
And struck with Wonder at the Monarch's Sight,
Thought the whole Globe, of Earth that Prince's Right,
Since Fame had fall'n much short in it's Report,
Of so renown'd a King, and so enrich'd a Court,
So now Great Anna's most auspicious Reign,
Not only makes our Sovereign cross the main,
One Prince from Lands remote a Visit pay,
And come, and see, and wonder, and obey:
But wing'd by her Example urges Four,
To seek Protection on Britannia's shore.
O Princes who have with Amazement seen,
So Good, so Gracious, and so Great a Queen,
Who from her Royal Mouth have heard your Doom,
Secur'd against the Threats of France and Rome;
A while some Moments on our Scenes bestow,
Scenes that their being to her Favours owe,
And rais'd by her Indulgence and her Smile,
Will for a Time the Cares of State beguile.